

News From U.S. Senator

North Dakota

Byron L. Dorgan

U.S. Senate " 713 Hart Building " Washington D.C. 20510

E-mail: senator@dorgan.senate.gov " Internet Web Page: <http://dorgan.senate.gov>

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CONTACT: Dana McCallum
or Barry E. Piatt

PHONE: 202-224-2551

DORGAN ANNOUNCES FOREIGN TRADE SUBZONE STATUS FOR IMATION CORPORATION IN WAHPETON

(WASHINGTON, D.C.) — U.S. Senator Byron Dorgan (D-ND) announced Monday that the Imation Corporation in Wahpeton has been granted Foreign Trade Subzone Status by the U.S. Department of Commerce. The designation will allow the data storage manufacturer to be more competitive in the global marketplace. Dorgan led efforts by the state's Congressional delegation to expedite approval of the new trade subzone status.

"This levels the playing field for Imation," Dorgan said. "It will help Imation remain competitive and help them stay in North Dakota rather than being forced to re-locate overseas as so many other manufacturers have done."

The Subzone designation allows Imation to import raw materials duty-free for use in manufacturing finished products that it exports. Without the designation, the company is at a competitive disadvantage because it is forced to pay import duties on raw materials for the products it sells abroad, but foreign competitors do not. Foreign competitors are also allowed to import finished goods duty-free under trade agreements with the U.S.

Imation is part of a global technology company that provides data storage and information management products. The company employs over 600 employees in the Wahpeton facility, which specializes in precision injection molding, automated assembly, metal-stamping and tooling fabrication.

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